02/023K Attorney Docket No.

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I HEREBY DECLARE THAT:

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one inventor is named below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below or in an attached Declaration) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

SYNTHETIC CASING SECTIONS CLOSED AT ONE END

was filed on <u>06/02/2003</u> as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number PCT/EP 03/05737 and was amended on (if applicable).

In the event that the filing date and/or Application No. are not entered above at the time I execute this document, and if such information is deemed necessary, I hereby authorize and request my attorneys/agent(s) at **Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP**, 1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036-3425, to insert above the filing date and/or Application No. of said application.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was ever known or used by others in the United States of America, or was patented or described in any printed publication in any country, before I (we) invented it.

I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was patented or described in any printed publication in any country, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America, for more than one year prior to the filing date of this United States application;

I do not know and do not believe that the same invention was first patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate that issued in any country foreign to the United States of America before the filing date of this United States application if the foreign application was filed by me (us), or by my (our) legal representatives or assigns, more than twelve months (six months for design patents) prior to the filing date of this United States application;

I believe that the above-identified specification contains a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention, and sets forth the best mode contemplated by me of carrying out the invention; and

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

I HEREBY CLAIM foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Such foreign application/s has/have been filed as follows:

02/023K Attorney Docket No.

| PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S). | COUNTRY | FOREIGN FILING DATE DAY/MONTH/YEAR | PRIORITY CLAIMED | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| No. 102 25 619.5 GERMANY | | 7/June/2002 | YES | |
| | | | | |

I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| U.S. Provisional Application Number | Filing Date | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--|--|
| | | | |
| | | | |

I HEREBY CLAIM the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| U.S. Parent Application Number | PCT Parent Application Number | Parent Filing Date | Parent Publication Number | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | PCT/EP03/05737 | June 2, 2003 | WO 03/103405 A1 | |

I HEREBY APPOINT

| Burton A. Amernick | 24,852 | Christine M. Hansen | 40,634 | Elliot C. Mendelson | 42,878 |
|--------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| Joseph Barrera | 44,522 | Daniel J. Harbison | 47,631 | C. Keith Montgomery | 45,254 |
| Richard M. Beck | 22,580 | Liza D. Hohenschutz | 33,712 | Daniel C. Mulveny | 45,897 |
| Oleh V. Bilynsky | 50,563 | Larry J. Hume | 44,163 | Thor B. Nielsen | 45,528 |
| Mary W. Bourke | 30,982 | Rudolf E. Hutz | 22,397 | Gerard M. O'Rourke | 39,794 |
| Gary A. Bridge | 44,560 | Wayne C. Jaeschke | 21,062 | James M. Olsen | 40,408 |
| Paul E. Crawford | 24,397 | Christopher E. Jeffers | 51,274 | George R. Pettit | 27,369 |
| Francis Digiovanni | 37,310 | Morris Liss | 24,510 | Ashley I. Pezzner | 35,646 |
| Eric J. Evain | 42,517 | Zhun Lu | 53,242 | Harold Pezzner | 22,112 |
| John A. Evans | 44,100 | Matthew J. Mason | 44,904 | Thomas F. Poche | 45,017 |
| Mark E. Freeman | 48,143 | Susan E. Shaw McBee | 39,294 | Patricia Smink Rogowski | 33,791 |
| Stanley B. Green | 24,351 | Robert G. McMorrow | 30,962 | Helena C. Rychlicki | 48,179 |
| Brian J. Hairston | 46,750 | William E. McShane | 32,707 | Myron Keith Wyche | 47,341 |

all of Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP, 1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036-3425, jointly, and each of them severally, my attorneys at law/patent agent(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please mail all correspondence to Susan E. Shaw McBee, whose address is:

Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP

1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, DC 20036-3425

Please direct telephone calls to: Susan E. Shaw McBee at (202) 331-7111.

Please direct facsimiles to: (202) 293-6229

I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT the foregoing attorneys and agents appointed by me to prosecute this application do not personally represent me or my legal interests, but instead represent the interests of the legal owner(s) of the invention described in this application.

I FURTHER DECLARE THAT all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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